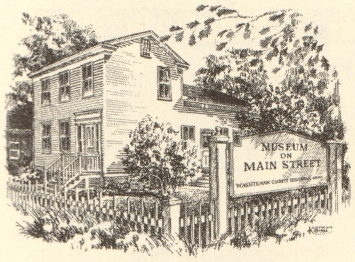
APRIL 2009



IMPRESSIONS

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER • FOUNDED 1857

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The Washtenaw County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Information
Published Seven Times A Year From September-May.

Museum On Main Street
500 N. Main Street at Beakes Street
Post Office Box 3336
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3336

Phone: 734.662.9092
Email: wchs-500@ameritech.net
Web Site:
www.washtenawhistory.org

Annual dues: January-December individual, $15; couple/family $25; student or senior (60+) $10; senior couple $19; business/association $50; patron $100.

RICHARD L. GALANT, PhD

President's Letter

Please join us for our potluck supper and election of officers Wednesday, May 20, 2009, from 6 to 8 pm, at the Milan Senior & Community Center, 45 Neckel Court, in Milan. We will gather at 6:00 pm and dining will begin at 6:30. Dining materials, plates, eating utensils and beverages will be supplied. Please bring a dish for eight to pass. There will be a short program at 7:30 pm, followed by the election of officers.

Our latest exhibition, *COMING to WASHTENAW COUNTY*, is up and running. It features vignettes of German, Greek, Chinese, Arab and African American groups that have chosen to migrate to our area. On the first Sunday of April, May and June, members of the Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County will be at the museum with their computers to assist visitors in searching for their ancestors on the Internet.

You also won't want to miss our April General Meeting, Sunday, April 19, at 2 pm. Journalist Don Faber will discuss The Toledo War, which resulted in the inclusion of the Upper Peninsula in the State of Michigan. The meeting is at the Hanson Room of Glacier Hills, 1200 Earhart Road.

The crocuses are popping their stems through the soil along the fence and in a few weeks our garden will be bright with crocuses, daffodils and tulips. Under the direction of Master Gardener Lillian Ferguson, the Garden Ladies will be planting flats of annuals. They make every effort to find these plants and we welcome your donations toward their purchase. We also welcome garden volunteers to work along with our Garden Ladies.

Recently, it was brought to our attention that other groups in the area regard membership dues as a deductible donation. We investigated the IRS rules and found this statement: "Membership and contributions to the (*Washtenaw County Historical Society*) are tax-deductible. No goods or services were provided in return for these contributions." The rule applies to certain membership benefits provided in return for an annual payment of $75 or less or to certain items or benefits of token value.

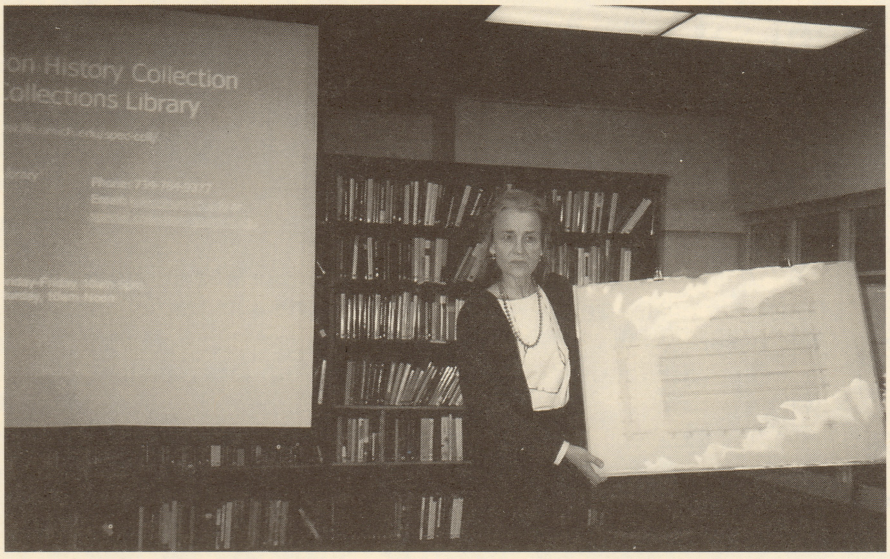
As a result of our research, from this date forward tax receipt letters will be sent for membership in addition to the usual thank you sent for monies specified as donations.

For information on the annual meeting, current exhibition, museum gardens or museum membership benefits, please call 734.662.9092.

Many of those Coming to Washtenaw County suffered hardships and had to make significant adjustments to their lives. One such story is from Georgina Sanz, pictured here. See Page 6 for her story and be sure to visit the Museum on Main Street to learn about the people who came to Washtenaw County as strangers and now enrich the community. The exhibit runs through July 1 and the Museum is open Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 pm.

KATHLEEN DOW • HEAD OF ARCHIVAL PROCESSING AND CATALOGUING,
AND CURATOR OF THE TRANSPORTATION HISTORY COLLECTION

How We Traveled



Kathleen Dow included some of the materials in the collection to give attendees a sense of the kind of information that is available.

At the Washtenaw County Historical Society General Meeting last month, Kathleen Dow introduced members and guests to the extensive University of Michigan Transportation History Collection. Dow is curator of the collection and head of archival processing and cataloguing of the Special Collections Library. The talk took place at the Harlen Hatcher Graduate Library, where the collection is housed on the 7th floor.

"The original Transportation Library was the creation of John Worley, a professor of engineering at U. of M.," said Dow. "A published author of monographs on transportation and a respected highway expert, Worley began building the collection in 1923 to support transportation-related studies in the U of M School of Engineering. The first books purchased for the Transportation Library were housed in East Hall. They were later moved to the second floor of the Undergraduate Library and in 1992, to the Hatcher Library."

Dow said that in the early days, the study of transportation concentrated heavily on railroads. In addition, it included flight, ships and waterways, carriages and automobiles (particularly early 20th century luxury models), roads and highways, and bicycling and bicycles. In 1992, the rare books, graphics, photographs, paintings, and archival collections that formed a portion of Professor Worley's Transportation Library, were transferred to the Special Collections Library and became known as the Transportation History Collection. Curators have continued to add materials through purchases and donations.

"Before his tenure as the curator of the library ended in 1946, Professor Worley had acquired several thousand volumes of railroad annual reports and other official documents as well as a rich collection of prints, drawings, photographs, and ephemera related to trains and railroads," said Dow. "With close to 6,000 volumes of railroad annual reports, reports to stockholders, and engineer's reports for American lines, a project has been started to digitize all of the reports and place them on the web for use by the general public. Starting with railroad lines in Michigan, the railroads website now contains annual reports for the Ann Arbor Railroad and the Michigan Central Railroad, to name two. The reports are searchable and may be downloaded."

Dow presented an overview of the collection and then went on to explore more thoroughly two archival collections: the Lincoln Highway Association Archive and the Charles Ellet, Jr. Papers.

The Lincoln Highway Association

Founded by Indianapolis businessman and entrepreneur Carl Fisher, the Lincoln Highway Association included representatives from the automobile, tire and cement industries. The goal was to plan, fund, construct and promote the first transcontinental highway

An example of early 20th century train travel advertising that is part of the collection on railroads.

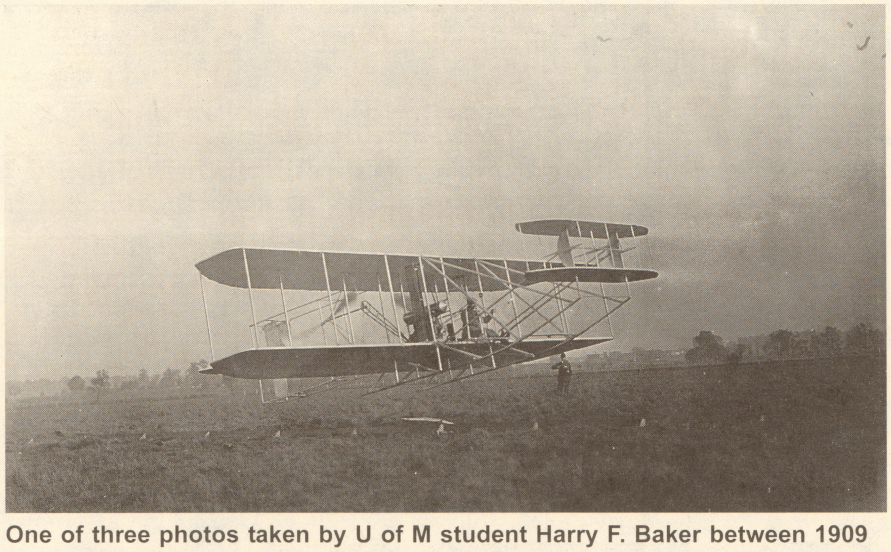
A photograph of the Ann Arbor No. 7, an Ann Arbor Railroad Company railroad car ferry in service in 1925. Crossing Lake Michigan carrying fully-laden railroad cars below deck and passengers on the upper decks, ferries like the Ann Arbor No. 7 considerably shortened the travel time between Michigan and the upper Midwestern states.

in North America. Following the most direct route possible, from New York to San Francisco, it would consist of both existing and newly built roads that covered approximately 3,400 miles.

"The archive consists of five linear feet of manuscript material (including scrapbooks), six published road guides, six drawings by landscape architect Jens Jensen, and 3,012 photographs," said Dow. "These are materials from the central office in Detroit dating from 1912 through the early 1940s. There are letters, manuscript trip logs, minutes of meetings of the board of directors, reports, contracts, membership sales and subscriptions records, planning documents, financial statements, press releases, maps, and newsletter enclosures. Scattered throughout the archive are maps created by the association as well as local or federal government surveying maps or those published by the Automobile Association of Southern California.

"The correspondence portion of the archive contains hundreds of letters signed by such people as Carl Fisher, William Dobyns, Arthur Pardington, Henry Ford, Austin Bement, Gael Hoag, Henry Joy, and H.C Ostermann," continued Dow. "From the early years there are many letters soliciting financial, or even just philosophical support. Carl Fisher's written plea to Henry Ford prompted a reply from James Couzens declining to offer any support to a privately funded highway. [Couzens, later a Michigan senator, was at that time associated with the Ford Motor Company.] He writes '… it is better to spend our money in making the price of the cars low, as this will have the beneficial effect of putting more cars in use … the greater demand there will be for the government building Good Roads.' There is also a letter from Woodrow Wilson's secretary declining a certificate and a presidential endorsement of the project."

Most of the solicitations for financial support were positive, according to Dow, and "showed a sense that the building of this "drivable ocean to ocean highway would strengthen, and even create, a multitude of businesses." There are nine notebooks of various sizes that log each mile and every turn along various sections of the highway. These logs were the raw data that was later edited, expanded or condensed and used in the official field guides published by the Association. The collection also includes minutes of the board of directors meetings.



One of three photos taken by U of M student Harry F. Baker between 1909 and 1911 while working for Orville and Wilbur Wright.

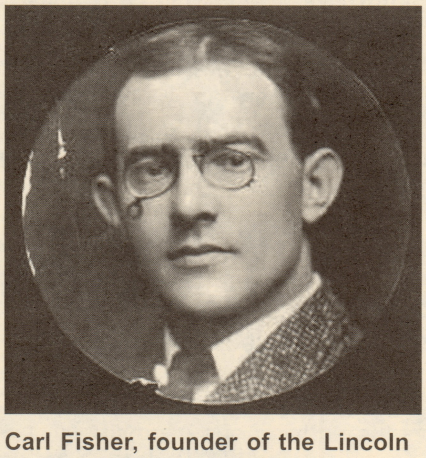
"Most of the meetings were held in Detroit, but there are a few that were convened in Indianapolis and New York," said Dow. "There are discussions of routes, troubles with local government officials, discussions of changes in leadership and membership, and memorials acknowledging the passing of a colleague."

In 1920, planners developed a model section of road called the "Seedling Mile," located in Lake County, Indiana, between Dyer and Schererville. Design specifics included a 110-foot right-of-way, a 40-foot wide concrete pavement 10 inches thick, a minimum radius for curves of 1,000 feet with guardrails at all embankments, curves that were super-elevated, no grade crossings or advertising signs, and a footpath for pedestrians. Most notable, says Dow, was the addition of a campsite to be designed by landscape architect, Jens Jensen, who worked with Frank Lloyd Wright. He designed a site that would blend in with the surrounding countryside.

More than 3,000 photographs, part of the original gift of the archive, document the early research and yearly trips taken by the directors and

Ann Arbor resident and engineer John G. Claybourn donated this photo of the excavation of the Culaybra Cut, one of the most treacherous sections excavated during the building of the Panama Canal. He donated 24 albums and hundreds of handbooks and serieals to the Transportation Library.

field secretaries of the Association. Funded by grants from the Friends of the University Library and the new Lincoln Highway Association (founded in 1992), all of the photographs have been re-housed in archival quality sleeves, digitized and placed on the web in a searchable website. They can be found in the original categories designated by the Lincoln Highway Association: California, Yosemite, Nevada, Victory Highway, Midland Trail, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, The Ideal Section, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Portraits, and General.



Carl Fisher, founder of the Lincoln Highway Association, also planned and developed the North-South Dixie Highway, portions of which are now I-75, considered the gateway to Florida.

Charles Ellet, Jr. Papers

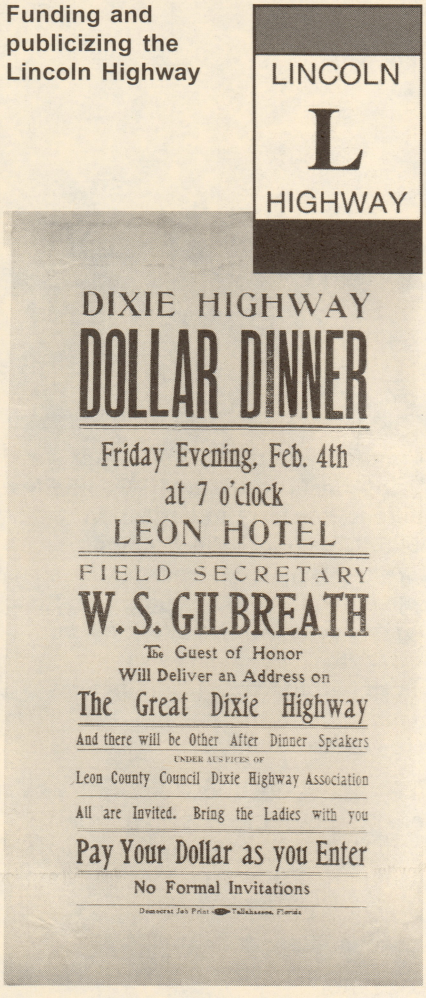
Dow described Charles Ellet, Jr. as "one of the foremost American civil engineers of the 19th century." He is best remembered for his efforts in introducing the suspension bridge into the United States and for his experimentation with different types and configurations of twisted and untwisted wire cables used in building these bridges.

"Born in Penn's Manor, Pennsylvania, Ellet had a natural aptitude for math but little formal education," said Dow. "As a young man he traveled to Europe, observing bridge construction while also attending engineering classes in Paris. When he returned to the United States, Ellet quickly established himself as a talented railroad and canal surveyor and an innovative bridge designer."

Ellet was a prolific correspondent and the collection includes letters that provide much information about his professional and personal life. One of interest is a letter written in 1838 by Prussian-born engineer John Augustus Roebling, who was interested in Ellet's use of twisted wire cables as a bridge's support structure. Although the two engineers never worked together, Roebling went on to great success and is most well known for his design and construction of the Brooklyn Bridge.

In 1848, Ellet was awarded the design and building contract for a bridge that would span the Niagara Falls River. He built a single-level foot and carriage bridge linking Canada and the United States, the first such bridge at the Niagara

Funding and publicizing the Lincoln Highway



Charles Ellet, whose extensive papers archived in the Special Collections Library consist of seven linear feet of correspondence that include business and financial records and small drawings and sketches; six large drawings of the Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge; 20 manuscript notebooks, and 150 books, pamphlets and memorials written by Ellet.

Falls Gorge.

"Ellet fell into a dispute with both the Canadian and United States' governments over ownership of the bridge and the distribution of its tolls," said Dow. The bridge was torn down in 1849 and rebuilt by John Roebling in 1854, this time as a bi-level bridge with an upper platform for foot and carriage traffic and a lower platform for trains. Roebling retained the massive piers that Ellet designed and built for the bridge."

A letter from Ellet's wife Elvira (Ellie) in 1854 bears the heartbreaking news that his suspension bridge at Wheeling, Virginia, had collapsed. For many years, the 1,010-foot bridge had the distinction of being the longest suspension bridge in the world. However, strong winds during a storm led to the cable bolts attached to the piers to give way, causing the collapse. Although the Wheeling Bridge was rebuilt, it would be the last that Ellet would build. He instead turned his attention to engineering solutions to the flooding problems at the mouth of the Mississippi River and, later, to using his ram-boats in battles during the Civil War.

Some of Ellet's tools.

"At the beginning of the Civil War, Ellet approached the Union Army and proposed retrofitting steamboats with reinforced prows and iron rams," said Dow. "These ships, used by the United States Navy, were designed to assault Confederate ships and coastal forts on the Mississippi River. Ellet was commissioned as a Colonel to command his fleet of ram ships and they were successfully used in battle."

During the Battle of Memphis, while commanding the ram boat, The Queen of the West, Ellet was wounded in the leg and subsequently died on June 21, 1862. Some accounts suggest that he did not die of his wound, but rather from the measles. Tragedy continued to haunt the Ellet family when Elvira died shortly after her husband, some said from a broken heart. One year later, their son Charles Rivers Ellet, died.

As the current part-time curator of the Transportation History Collection, Dow continues to acquire material related to all modes of transportation and their related infrastructures. Over the past several years she has been broadening the scope of acquisitions to include the history of transportation outside the United States. Dow welcomes questions and queries and invites those interested in transportation to visit the Special Collections Library, which is open to the general public. She can be reached at kdow@umich.edu, or 734-764-9377.

Museum Shop Books For Sale

Three new books now available at the Museum Shop:

LEGENDS and LEGACIES, The Greeks in Ann Arbor, Michigan. By Pearl Kastran Ahnen. Soft cover, 200 pp, $15

THE THIRD MARKED TREE, Paths Through the Wilderness – John Williams of Webster Township and His Descendants. By James Baldwin Parker and Osbert Oliver Williams. Hard cover, 314 pp, $20

WEBSTER: A Time, A Place, A People. By Grace Shackman. (About Webster Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan.) Soft cover: 274 pp, $27.50; Hard cover, $32.50

Two books relating to our current exhibit: *Coming to Washtenaw County*, also are available.

ANOTHER ANN ARBOR, By Carol Gibson and Lola M. Jones. (About the African-American community in the Ann Arbor area.) Soft cover, 128 pp, $20

JEWISH ANN ARBOR, By Richard and Ruth Adler. Soft cover, 128 pp, $20

And finally, we have a book that will appeal to the many that worked for Argus Camera.

ARGOMANIA, A Look at Argus Cameras and the Company That Made Them. By Henry J. Gambino. Soft cover, 222pp. $40.

Books are available for purchase at the museum or through the website, www.washtenawhistory.org

SUSAN WINEBERG • WAY BACK WHEN

Pontiac House Dated by Dendrochonology

The house at 1526 Pontiac Trail, recently restored by Patrick McCauley, has been dated using a technique known as Dendrochronology. McCauley sent wood samples from his joists to Henri D. Grissino-Mayer at the University of Tennessee and for $500 they were able to tell him his house was built in 1845. Although the house was moved to its current location in 1869, it is fairly certain to have come from the Lund Estate. McCauley believes it was the first house built by Jonathon Lund before he built his fabulous mansion, still standing at 1324 Pontiac Trail, in 1847. McCauley bases this on a set of initials carved in his basement, which belonged to P.H. Howland, a relative of Charles Richmond, the brother of Mrs. Lund.

In doing his research, McCauley was also able to discover an old photograph of his home, showing that the location of the entry had been moved from right to left and the wing moved to the rear. You never know what you will find if you dig deep enough and McCauley has the stamina to keep on digging. If you are interested in having your property dated by dendrochronology you can contact him at patrickmmccauley@hotmail.com

1526 Pontiac Trail then

And now

Georgina Sanz's Story

One of many to be found at Coming to Washtenaw County, currently at the Museum on Main Street.

My name is Georgina Sanz. I came to the United States in 1962 from Cuba. My family had to emigrate because we were considered counter-revolutionary. My husband, Lino, my eight month old son and myself came first to Miami. We lived briefly in Oklahoma before coming to Ann Arbor because an uncle told us this would be a better place to settle. My daughter was born in Washtenaw County in 1967.

When we left Cuba, we were forced to abandon our homes and all our property. We could not take any money, jewelry or family pictures with us. In my small suitcase I was able to bring only six outfits and two pairs of shoes. I was allowed to leave with only my plain gold wedding band and a watch. Everything else had to be left behind including my mother and father. Fortunately they were able to join us the next year.

In Cuba my father was a lawyer; in Ann Arbor he cleaned tables at a cafeteria at the University of Michigan. My husband was a captain in the Cuban Navy. He also worked for the University of Michigan, first as a janitor and then in an office.

This photo of Georgina Sanz's family is from an old newspaper clipping. Her father and mother are on the left; her husband is on the right; and she and her son, who was a month or two old when the family left Cuba, are in the center.

Upcoming Events

Kempf House Noon Lecture Series

When: Wednesdays, noon to 1:00 P.M.

Admission: Members, $1; Non-Members, $2

Where: 312 S. Division St., Ann Arbor, MI

Details: Parking available in large public lot south of Kempf House

April 8: Stu Johnson, father of Kempf House board member Kjirstan Blander, presents, ***Dixieland: The Forgotten Root of Jazz.***, explaining his lifelong love of all music, particularly jazz.

April 15 : **Richard Rubenfeld,** EMU art history professor with a special interest in cartoon and comic art, presents, ***Artists Who Age Successfully,*** his reflections about aging among artists.

April 22: Keith Matz, self-described "advanced amateur enthusiast," presents, ***Imagery of the Galapogos Islands***, striking digital photos from his recent trip to the islands and to Quito, Ecuador.

Information:734.994.4898, www. kempfhousemuseum.org

University of Michigan Detroit Observatory Tours

When: From 1 to 4 p.m. on the following dates:

Saturday, April 11, 2009

Sunday April 19, 2009

Where: 1398 East Ann Street, Ann Arbor, MI

Details: Parking available at street side meters or cashier-attended lots directly across the street at the U of M Cardiovascular Center, or beneath the Life Sciences Institute on Palmer Drive, near the corner of Washtenaw and Huron.

Information: Call the Bentley Historical Library at 734.764.3482 or during open houses, the observatory itself at 734.763.2230). Email to DetroitObservatory@umich.edu. Web site is www.bentley.umich.edu - follow the links to the Detroit Observatory.

Kempf House Museum Open House Tours

When: Sundays - Through June 14, excluding Easter and Memorial Day Weekends

From 1 to 4 pm

Where: 312 S. Division St., Ann Arbor, MI

Parking available in large public lot south of Kempf House

Details: See the 1890s life style of the German-American Kempf family, and learn about the early history of Ann Arbor.

Admission: Free. Donations appreciated

Information: 734.994.4898, www.kempfhousemuseum.org

Saline Area Historical Society

Third Winter/Spring Education Program: A Trip to Gordon Hall

When: Sunday, April 19, 2 to 3:30 pm

Where: Gordon Hall, Dexter, MI

Details: Tour landmark mansion in neighboring Dexter. Hosted by the Dexter Area Historical Society. Space is limited to 50 people. Meet at Gordon Hall in Dexter, or if you wish to carpool, meet at the Saline Railroad Depot at 1:15 p.m.

Admission: Free and open to the public. Donations appreciated.

Reservations: 734. 944.0442. Leave your name and phone number on the voicemail.

Salem Area Historical Society

Meeting and "School House Poets" presentation by Carol Packard and Debra MacGregor

When: Wednesday, April 22, 7:30 PM

Where: Jarvis-Stone School, 7991 North Territorial Road at Curtis Road.

Details: Everyone welcome

Information: www. sahshistory.org

Historical Society of Michigan

Patriots and Presidents Historic Sites Bus Tour

When: Saturday, May 30, 2009, 8 am to 6 pm

Registration Deadline: April 29, 2009

Details: Tour stops include: Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center - Speigle Grove in Fremont , Ohio; Fallen Timbers Memorial & Battlefield in Toledo , Ohio; Fort Meigs State Memorial Park in Perrysburg , Ohio; River Raisin Battlefield War of 1812 Visitor Center in Monroe Michigan. Tour includes charter bus transportation, buffet lunch, all admissions and full tour narration. Leaves at 8:00 am from northeast corner of the Northville Meijer parking lot, 20401 Haggerty Rd , Northville , Michigan , 1/4 mile west of I-275.

Registration Fee: $99 for members and $125 for non-members (includes one-year HSM membership). Download registration brochure from hsmichigan.org/workshops.php or call 517.342.1828 to register by phone.

Michigan One-Room School Association Annual Conference

When: Saturday, May 16, 2009, 8:30 am

Where: Woodland School and the Weber-Blaess One-Room School in Saline, MI.

Details: The featured speaker will be Janice Stein, local author of *Schools of Yesteryear, Volume I,* featuring the country schools of Sand Beach & Sherman Townships. A highlight of the conference is a session on the history and renovation of the Weber-Blaess School, an integral part of the Saline Area Schools.

Registration Fee: $35.00

Information: Jim & Cheryl Hoeftt, 734.429.5922.

Sue Daniel, 248.477.3335, or visit the MORSA web site at one-roomschool.org

The Mid-Am Chapter of the Musical Box Society International

34th Annual Band Organ Festival

When: July 31 – August 1, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Where: Riverside Park & Depot Town, Ypsilanti, Michigan

Details: Members will be playing a variety of large roll-operated carousel and band organs housed in large trailers, and hand-cranking music on portable organs known as hurdy-gurdys or monkey organs. Everyone is invited to enjoy the music and try their hand at cranking some of the smaller organs. Children are especially welcomed! There is no admission charge.

Information: www.mbsi.org.

MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET
A Museum Of County Life

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box 3336
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-3336

EXHIBIT: COMING to WASHTENAW COUNTY *WILL BE UP UNTIL JULY 1*
So far almost 250 UM students have visited – HAVE U?
Hours: Noon–4 PM / Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday
and by appointment / groups welcomed

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Ann Arbor, MI
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SUNDAY • APRIL 19
2:00 PM

THE TOLEDO WAR

JOURNALIST DON FABER
GLACIER HILLS, HANSON ROOM
1200 EARHART ROAD, ANN ARBOR, MI

INFORMATION • 734.662.9092
www.WashtenawHistory.org

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Make Note - Dates to Remember

2009 General Meeting Schedule

Sun., April 19
2:00 pm

The Toledo War
Glacier Hills, Hanson Room
1200 Earhart Road, Ann Arbor, MI

Wed., May 20
6 to 8 pm

Annual Meeting
Potluck Supper and Election of Officers
Milan Senior & Community Center
45 Neckel Court, Milan, MI

Thank You!

to *The Ann Arbor News* for donating seven months' worth of paper for our newsletter.

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Washtenaw County Historical Society is to foster interest in and to elucidate the history of Washtenaw County from the time of the original inhabitants to the present. Its mission shall be to carry out the mandate as stated through the preservation and presentation of artifacts and information by exhibit, assembly, and publication. And to teach, especially our youth, the facts, value and the uses of Washtenaw County history through exhibits in museums and classrooms, classes, tours to historical places, and other educational activities.

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Museum on Main Street *A Museum of County Life*
500 North Main Street at Beakes & E. Kingsley Streets
(734) 662-9092 / eMail: wchs-500@ameritech.net
Web: www.WashtenawHistory.org
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 3336
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-3336

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President
Ralph P. Beebe
Vice President
Judith M. Chrisman
Recording Secretary
Immediate Past President
Pauline V. Walters
Corresponding Secretary
Leslie L. Loomans
Treasurer

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The Washtenaw County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization.

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT

January 1 – December 31, 2008

2008 is now in the history books! 2008 for the Washtenaw County Historical Society was a fruitful year. Our membership of nearly 500 remained steady as the Society tried new strategies to recruit new and younger members. As part of this effort we hired a young docent to staff the exhibits on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday.

We hope that the seeds are being planted, especially with the upgrades that have been made to the Society's website. The Society published a new brochure with a newly designed logo that identifies its special niche as a part of the Washtenaw County community.

In May, our Society received an award from the Ann Arbor Historic District Commission for having made significant contribution to historic preservation in the City of Ann Arbor. We were chosen to receive a 2007 Sesquicentennial Award celebrating our 150th year. Many of our board members were present at City Hall for the ceremony.

The program presenters over the past year provided more insight and increased appreciation of the county's rich history. Greater attention was given to the past year's exhibitions, and was rewarded by more citizens coming to the Museum on Main Street to see our exhibitions. The most popular was the TOYS in TOYLAND train exhibition.

Our collection continued to be enriched with the addition of historical artifacts and memorabilia, more particularly the very large, 14 boxes and various loose items, that came from the Tuomy estate via the Michigan Historical Society that was the original recipient.

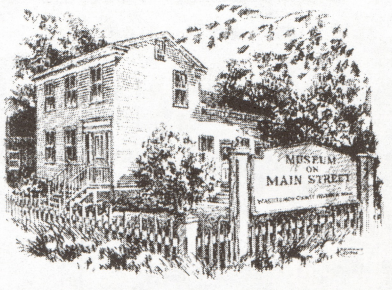
Finally, our financial status was significantly less strong than in the past due to the economy and banking problems. We are still viable.

Indeed, 2008 is now in the history books, but the rich ideas, memories, and events are part of us now and make s glad to live in Washtenaw County.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Galant

Richard L. Galant
Board President



WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT

January 1 – December 31, 2008

BEQUEST COMMITTEE *Tom Freeman*

The Bequest Committee was established by the Washtenaw County Historical Society Board of Directors in late 2001 to manage the receipt of the bequest from the Doris Ann Bach Estate. The assets comprising the Bequest Fund are managed according to the Bequest Fund Guidelines, as established by the Board of Directors of the Washtenaw County Historical Society. In addition, the Board of Directors has engaged the firm of AXA Advisors, LLC to provide investment management services related to the Bequest Fund.

The Bequest Fund Guidelines require the Bequest Committee to provide monthly reports on the status of the investments in the Bequest Fund to the Board of Directors and annually to the members of the Society. In response to the requirement to report annually on the status of the investments in the Bequest Fund, the Bequest Committee submits the following:

BEQUEST FUND
ACCOUNT ACTIVITY SUMMARY
January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008

Beginning Value as of 01/01/08:	$763,799.82
Additions:	0.00
Withdrawals:	(33,500.00)
Dividends / Interest:	42,937.33
Change in Investment Value:	(179,876.90)
Ending Value as of 12/31/08:	**$593,360.25**

BEQUEST FUND
ANNUAL RATE OF RETURN

January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008: (18.75 %)

COLLECTIONS *Judith Chrisman*

Work continues on organizing the collection. Many unnumbered items and some of those that were given a special number in a 1975 inventory have been matched to missing items from earlier records. Unnumbered items that cannot be definitely attributed to earlier items are being given a "found in collection" number according to established museum practices. Hopefully, further research will allow us to match these with earlier missing items also.

Over 400 new items were processed during the year. Of those, about 250 were part of the Tuomy collection donated by The Historical Society of Michigan in February, 2008. Other new additions to our collection were donated by Nancy E. Taylor, Rachel Crary, Caroline Peterik, Susan Wineberg, Ivory Photo, Inc., Al Gallup, Cameron Shultz, Susan Kosky, Richard Crusius, Rosemarion Blake, Carol Buttrum, Douglas Jackson, Steve Guerriero, and Adrian Essie. In addition, Kempf House Museum transferred two items to us and Bentley Library transferred one item.

EXHIBITIONS

The HOLIDAY exhibit was followed by a display of wedding customs and dresses, TYING the KNOT. Then in the Fall, the Ann Arbor YMCA staff mounted their display featuring artifacts about THE ANN ARBOR YMCA: 150 YEARS of COMMUNITY SERVICE. From mid-December to the end of January, almost 600 visitors came to enjoy the TRAINS in TOYLAND exhibit. Fabian Beltran was wonderful demonstrating to young people how to construct dioramas for the toy trains.

FUNDRAISING

In 2008, our endeavor was a pocket calendar that was mailed to our members and friends.

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Vice President
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January - December 2008

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BERRODIN, Gene & Kay
BEUHLER, Mr & Mrs Robert J
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BIRCH, Harriet * & Carol A
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BLAKE. Rosemarion A
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BORCHERTS, Holde
BOREL, George
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Manchester, MI
BREVOORT, Sharon L
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BUGAY, Jill
BURD, Susan Bender
BURNS, Eunice L
BUSKIRK, Nancy Jean
BUTTRUM, Carole
CALDWELL, Mary Beth
CALHOUN, Betsy & David Edwards
Livonia, MI
CAMPBELL, Ross W
CARBECK, Edith D
CARR, Barbara M
CARRAS, James W Mary Lou
CATTELL, Dorothy
CHAPEKIS, Anna & Nicholas G
Saline, MI
CHETHIK, Beverly & Morton
CHRISMAN, John & Judy
Gregory, MI
CLARK, Janice A
CLEMENTS, Wayne - *Saline, MI*
CLEVELAND, Donald E
COHEN, Alice S
COLEMAN, Richard & Sylvia
Saline, MI
COLVIN, Betty Jane
COLVIN, Elizabeth Donoghue
CONLIN, William & Ellen
COOK, Lynn - *Tecumseh, MI*
COOPER, Hugh & Eleanor Rose
Saline, MI
COOPER, Nancy C
COOPER, Saul* & Ann
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COUTURE, Edward & Marilyn
CREAL, Barbara - *Olympia Fields, IL*
CREAL, Richard - *Ft Lauderdale, FL*
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CRIPPS, Marjorie
CRUMP, Jean
CULBERTSON, Joann
CULVER, Mary - *Ypsilanti, MI*
DANEKIND, Warren & Doris
Oregon, OH
DAVIS, Nancy L *
DeCICCO, Ronald
DeFREYTAS, Gregory & Ann
Del VECCHIO, Angela J
DETTER, Raymond A
DETTLING, James H
DICKERSON, Marilyn
DICKINSON, Tom & Jean
DIKEMAN, Agnes
DODD, Tom & Bettie
Ypsilanti, MI
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DUNNABACK, Russell
Howell, MI
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EADIE, Gavin & Barbara Murphy
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ELZAY, Wilma *
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FISHER, Lucille
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FLYNN, Susan
FOGLER, Janet
FOSDICK, Mrs Dale P - *Saline, MI*
FOX, Mr & Mrs Howard
FOYLE, Lois A
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GALLUP, Albert & Karen
GARRISON, Ruth E - *Saline, MI*
GILTROW, Beverly Jeanne
GIROD, Albert & Alemeda
GOODKIN, Mitch & Barb

MEMBERS *(continued)*
January - December 2008

GOODRICH, Raymond & Suzanne
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GRACIE, Mrs William
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GREB, Dean & Linda - *Saline, MI*
GREENOUGH, Dan & Norma
Dexter, MI
GREENOUGH, Robert & Fay
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Ypsilanti, MI
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GRIMES, George
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GRUHL, Fred & Iris
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KROHN, Nancy
KUEHNLE, Gary - *Chelsea, MI*
LAGLER, Karl & Amy
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LAIRD, Barbara E
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LARSEN, Cathryn - *Kenosha, WI*
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LONG, Peter A
LONGONE, Janice & Daniel
LOOMANS, Leslie & Susan
LOOMIS, Ralph & Barbara
LOUGHRY, Bruce
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MALACOS, Mary G
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MARSHALL, Claude & Norma
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McKEACHIE, W J & Virginia
Dexter, MI
McWILLIAMS, Robert & Kathryn
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REES, Gerald & Carol
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REMSBERG, John & Linda
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SMITH, Nina & Scott
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STONER, Thomas G
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TAGGART, Herbert M
TEAL, Mary D
TELLER, Ellen
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Stonybrook, NY

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January - December 2008

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Saline, MI
TOEWS, Galen & Anita
TOWER, Fred & Marion
TOWERS, Carolyle J
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TROJAN, Paul K & Barbara G
TRUETTNER, Julie
TYLER, Ilene & Norman
UFER, David & Karen
UNTERBURGER, Mary Lou
UPTON, Anne & Herbert
VALENTINE, Phyllis & Todd Rosa
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VERHEY, Kirsten
WACKSMAN, Edith - *Essexville, MI*
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WAGNER, Lorry - *Brighton, MI*
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WARGER, DR Cynthia L - *Reston, VA*
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WHITE, Jerold
WHITE, Marilyn J - *Concord, OH*
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WILLIAMS, George W & Patricia
WILLIAMS, John & Christa
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WONNACOTT, Sue
WURSTER, Kathleen
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MAXWELL, Dr Donald
MICH, Judith & Thomas
NUSBAUM, Arthur S
O'NEAL, Joe E & Karen Koykka
SARNS, Richard & Norma
SCHRIBER, Thomas & Ann
SHERBURNE, Jack
SMITH, Dr Donald C & Jean
WANTY, James H - *Ypsilanti, MI*
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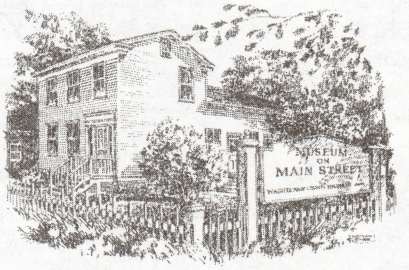

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WALTERS, Pauline Virginia
WINEBERG, Susan & Lars Bjorn

Membership runs
January through December

* Deceased - 2008

Members are residents of
ANN ARBOR
unless otherwise noted

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Up to $49

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BLAKE. Rosemarion A
BORCHERTS, Holde
BOWMAN, Bruce & Marion
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CARBECK, Edith D
CARR, Barbara M
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CLEVELAND, Donald E
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COLVIN, Betty Jane
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CRICHTON, Mary
CULBERTSON, Joann
DANEKIND, Warren & Doris
Oregon, OH
DeFREYTAS, Gregory & Ann
DETTLING, James H
DICKERSON, Marilyn
DIKEMAN, Agnes
DURFEE, Dorothy
FALCONE, Susan & Tom McClanahan
FILDEW, John & Helen
Grosse Pte Pk, MI
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FLORIDA, Wayne & Mary
FLYNN, Susan
FOGLER, Janet
FOSDICK, Mrs Dale P - *Saline, MI*
FOX, Mr & Mrs Howard
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FRISBIE, Donna J - *Chelsea, MI*
FRUEH, Bart & Cheryl
GALLAGHER, Arthur
GALLINGER, Priscilla
GALLUP, Albert & Karen
GARRISON, Ruth E - *Saline, MI*
GILTROW, Beverly Jeanne
GRABB, Cozette
GREENOUGH, Dan & Norma
Dexter, MI
GREENOUGH, Robert & Fay
GREINER, Mr & Mrs Dale
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GRIFFITH, Evelyn G
GRIMES, George
GROESBECK, Lois
GRUHL, Fred & Iris
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HAGEL, William & Mary Ellen
HANSEN, Olive E
HATCHER, Drs Robert & Sherry
HATHAWAY, Mary
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HENSEL, Mary
HILDEBRANDT, Dr & Mrs H Mark
IVORY, JoAnne
Southwest Harbor, ME
JOHNSON, Johanna
KADEL-TARAS, Stephanie
KILBOURN, Barbara & Michael
KINCAID, Wilfred
KLUGE, Jean
KRAUSE, Eugene & Jane
KUEHNLE, Gary - *Chelsea, MI*
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LaHOTE, Randy
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LEVENICK, Richard & Patricia
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LONG, Peter A
MALACOS, Mary G
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MEREDITH, Ann
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MILLER, Donna
MILLER, Herman & Dorothy S
MILLER, Robert Edwin
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MULL, Carol E
MURPHY, Marjorie M
NAGGERT, Gerhild
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NILSEN, Ralph & Kathryn
Grass Lake, MI
NISSEN, Eugene
NOFFSINGER, Sharon
NYSTUEN, John & Gwen
OHLGREN, Gene
OLSON, Nels & Mary
POOLEY, Patricia
POTTS, Ethel K
PRINCE, William & Marlene
REACH, Helen
REED, Robert E
REES, Elisabeth J
REES, Gerald & Carol
REMSBERG, John & Linda
ROCCO, Peter & Kay
RODRIGUEZ, Carol A
ROLOFF MD, Dietrich
RUSTEN, June A
SAUTER, Ellen J
SCHMID, Bernard & Arlene
SCHULTZ, Carolyn B
SELLERS, Mary Ann
SHAW, Eleanor A
SINGAL, Bonita
SMITH, Evelyn L
SMITH, Nina & Scott
Whitmore Lk, MI
SNYDER, Elsie Dyke & Jay
STAIGER, David & Ann
STEWART, George & Patricia
SUITS, Lynn M
TEAL, Mary D
TELLER, Ellen
THEIS, Lois
THIRY, James & Carol
Whitmore Lk, MI
THORNTON, Arland & Shirley
TONS, Egons & Susanne
TOWER, Fred & Marion
UNTERBURGER, Mary Lou
VAN APPLEDORN, Suzanne
WACKSMAN, Edith
Essexville, MI
WALTERS, Pauline Virginia
WARGELIN, C G
WEST, Marian S
WHITE, Jerold
WILD JR, George & Jean
WILLIAMS, George W & Patricia
WILLIAMS, John & Christa
WILSON, Dorothy Novy
WILT, Ellen
WURTZ, Robert & Betty
ZAHER, Michael

$50 to $99

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BAUER, Patricia L
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Ft Lauderdale, FL
FREEMAN, Tom & Cathy
GERDENICH, Michael & Ina
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Southampton, NY
KROLL, Dorine
LAIDLAW, Bruce
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MURPHY, Alphonsus C
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NENADIC, Susan L
OLSON Jr, Charles & Constance
PIERCE, Winnifred Poland
RICHART, Betty
SARNS, Richard & Norma
SCHRIBER, Thomas & Ann
STAEBLER, Donald G
STULBERG, Tom
THORNBURY, Mary E
TRIPP, Mr Jan E
UFER, David & Karen
VAN CURLER, Charlotte
WANTY, James H - *Ypsilanti, MI*
WINEBERG, Susan & Lars Bjorn
YAO, Cynthia

$100

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COPE, Barbara
D T E ENERGY
GAFFNEY, David & Rebecca
GIKAS, Suzanne & Paul
GIROD, Albert & Alemeda
GOLDSMITH, Dr Robert
GRAHAM, Elizabeth Needham
JANISZEWSKI, Belle - *Dexter, MI*
LOUGHRY, Bruce
NATURE'S GARDEN CENTER
Saline, MI
OLSON, Paul L
SHOOK, John - *Ypsilanti, MI*
SIEKMEIER, Jessie Forshee
VERHEY, Kirsten
VEZINA, Mrs John H

$101 to $250

BEEBE, Ralph P
CRUMP, Jean
GALANT, Dr & Mrs Richard
LOOMANS, Leslie & Susan
MAIN STREET AREA ASSN
MICH, Judith & Thomas
REYNOLDS, Ruth M
WANTY, Mr & Mrs Hugh
Chelsea, MI

$1000

HEYDON, Mr & Mrs Peter

Membership runs from January through December with letters being mailed in mid-January

* died in 2008

Donors receive a thank you note / tax deduction letter

GARDEN

The garden of the Museum on Main Street lush in 2008 because of the regular watering of the in-ground sprinkler system, despite the very dry summer. The Garden Ladies were grateful that that onerous task was no longer their responsibility. Master Gardener, Lillian Cleveland Ferguson has been a great help by keeping the grounds well-planted and then cleaned when the growing season is over. Patty Creal was honored with a gift trellis and "Firecracker" climbing clematis from Saline's Nature' Garden that was installed in the front garden close to the parking area.

GIFT SHOP *Sue Kosky*

Books were the best selling Gift Shop item in 2008. Upgrading the Gift Shop area of the web site drew customers as did the end of the year exhibit, TRAINS in TOYLAND and were a popular item on our web site; http://washtenawhistory.org/index.php?section=giftshop&content=books

IMPRESSIONS

The Ann Arbor District Library has scanned and digitized all the copies of the *Washtenaw Impressions* published since 1943 in preparation of putting them on their AADL Image Gallery (website). The project has not been completed due to an objection to the wording in one section of the contract. We are hoping that we can come to agreement so that this important project can go forth.

MEMBERSHIP *Pauline Walters*

In 2008 the Society had 443 members and donors: Members: 391; Patrons: 24: Life Members: 14; Business: 1; Business Patrons: 4; Library: 3; Complimentary: 3 and Honorary: 3. All together there were 216 donors of which 178 were also members and 38 who were donors to various funds. Post card reminders of the upcoming seven monthly General Meetings are mailed to members and donors.

PROGRAM - 2008 *Ralph Beebe*

February	ANN ARBOR ARCHITECTURE – Anita Toews – Cobblestone Farm Barn Joint meeting with Cobblestone Farm Association
March	WORKING WOMEN'S HISTORY PRIOR TO 1918 – Susan Nenadic Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S Fifth Avenue
April	RESTORATION of ST HELENA LIGHTHOUSE with TROOP 4 – Dick Moehl Glacier Hills Retirement Center – Hanson Room
May	ANNUAL MEETING and election of officers – pot luck supper Rentschler Farm Barn, Saline
September	YMCA: 150 YEARS in ANN ARBOR – Dan Maier & Cathi Duchon Joint program with Ann Arbor District Library Pittsfield Dist Library, 3259 Oak Valley, 48108
October	FOX GRAVEL PIT – ANCIENT BOTANY/GEOLOGY – John Russell Washtenaw Co Learning Resource Library
November	A HISTORY of UofM MEDICAL SCHOOL – David Bloom, MD Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S Fifth Avenue

WCHS WEBSITE *Jan E. Tripp (Jan_Tripp@comcast.net)*

New additions to our web site (http://washtenawhistory.org/) include "*Washtenaw Impressions* Index, 1943-1985," a listing of articles appearing in the first 42 years of our newsletter; "A Thousand Washtenaw Stories," a downloadable version of our new brochure, and the WCHS 150th anniversary newsletter. Museum exhibit web pages from the past year have been added to our "Past Exhibits" online archive.

During the upcoming year we hope to add a virtual exhibit featuring some of the 5,000 artifacts in our collection that are not often displayed.

Washtenaw County Historical Society
Income and Expense
January through December 2008

	Jan - Dec 08
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Donations	13,495.63
Endowment	1,265.00
Fundraising	4,236.00
Interest / Dividend	24,544.61
Membership Dues	8,271.00
Shop Sales	736.50
Total Income	52,548.74
Expense	
Admin. Organization	9,378.24
Advertising	384.30
Building Operation	8,985.47
Depreciation	13,339.00
Fundraising expense	2,501.39
Grounds	3,130.33
Impressions	8,464.77
Memb. Drive	1,029.09
Museum Collections & Exhibits	1,979.31
Office Equipment & Supplies	1,135.44
Payroll Expenses	16,130.36
Program Expenses	1,557.99
Shop	165.07
Total Expense	68,180.76
Net Ordinary Income	-15,632.02

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Loomans, Treasurer